

## **Marriageable Family? Parental Wealth and Marriage in South Korea**

This study examines the role of parental wealth in adult children's marriages in South Korea. In East Asia, traditional family values, norms, and attitudes that have remained amid rapid social transformation have been key factors delaying marriage. In this regard, South Korea's peculiar family context helps illuminate the important, yet unclear, link between parental resources and marriage entry. Using data drawn from the Korean Labor and Income Panel Study 1999-2015, the present study conducts a discrete-time event history analysis of the marriage entry of Koreans 18-40 years of age. The analysis of 6,207 respondents reveals that parental wealth significantly facilitates sons' entry into marriage, while the effect on daughters' marriage timing remains unclear. Yet, according to the analyses using a competing risk model on the types of assortative mating, women with affluent parents show a greater likelihood of getting married only to highly educated male partners. This study confirms that family formation in Korea now functions as a means for the intergenerational transmission of status.